

California Again Led State Exports in Fiscal 1999

Fiscal 1999 U.S. agricultural exports dropped \$4.6 billion from fiscal 1998. Continued weak demand, particularly from Asian countries, Brazil, and the New Independent States (NIS), as well as large global supplies, strong foreign competition, and low prices pushed exports down for the third consecutive year. Cotton, soybeans, and poultry showed the greatest declines in 1999, but nearly all commodity groups suffered. Low prices and weak demand accounted for much of the drop in cotton and soybeans. Poultry continued to be reduced due to depressed Russian demand. Soybeans slipped to the second largest export commodity, being replaced as number one by feed grains and products, one of the few commodities to show growth for the year. Exports of feed grains and products rose 7 percent to \$6.8 billion, while soybeans and products dropped nearly 28 percent to \$6.5 billion. Cotton exports dropped 48 percent to \$1.3 billion, and poultry fell 24 percent to \$2.1 billion.

Estimated exports from nearly all of the top 10 States declined, the exceptions being Kansas and Washington, which increased exports by 1 and 6 percent. California continued to lead State agricultural exports, with exports of \$6.9 billion, 45 percent above those of Iowa at number two. Arkansas slipped out of the top 10 agricultural exporting States, and Wisconsin took its place. Weak soybean and cotton exports pushed Illinois and Texas down to fifth and sixth ranked exporting States. Nebraska and Kansas moved up to third and fourth. Exports of the top 10 States accounted for 56 percent of total U.S. agricultural export value, maintaining the same proportion of total exports as in 1998. In 1999, only the top 16 States, one less than in 1998 and two less than in 1997, exported more than \$1 billion of agricultural products.

The drop in California's estimated agricultural exports equaled the 9-percent national decline. Cotton, fruit, and tree nuts, three of California's most important export crops, showed the largest declines, falling by \$100-\$200 million each. But vegetables, California's biggest agricultural export, remained at \$1.9 billion, fractionally more than in 1998. With the declines in its other important agricultural exports, California's vegetable exports accounted for 28 percent of all its 1999 exports, a larger share than in 1998. And California again accounted for nearly half of all U.S. vegetable exports. California is the State leader in exports of vegetables, fruits, tree nuts, and seeds. California ranks second after Texas in exports of cotton.

At \$3.2 billion, Iowa remained the second largest agricultural exporter in fiscal 1999. Iowa again led in exports of feed grains and soybeans, accounting for 17 and 18 percent shares of total U.S. exports of these products. A \$420-million decline in Iowa's 1999 soybean exports was partially offset by a \$120-million increase in its feed grain exports. Together, exports of feed grains and soybeans still accounted for 75 percent of all exports from Iowa.

In 1999, Nebraska ranked third among U.S. agricultural exporters, with \$2.9 billion in agricultural exports, virtually the same as the State's 1998 agricultural exports. Nebraska continued to be the leading State exporter of live animals and meat, feeds and fodders, hides and skins, and animal fats. The State's exports of live animals increased in 1999, while exports of feeds, hides, and animal fats all declined.

With \$2.8 billion in estimated fiscal 1999 agricultural exports, Kansas rose to fourth-ranked State exporter, up from its sixth rank in 1998. Kansas remained the leading wheat export State, with \$806 million in wheat exports in 1999, accounting for 21 percent of total U.S. wheat exports. Kansas ranked second to Nebraska in exports of live animals and meat, hides and skins, and animal fats.

Illinois, the fifth-ranked 1999 agricultural export State, exported \$2.75 billion, 10 percent less than in 1998. Despite the sharp drop in soybean exports, Illinois continued to be the second largest exporting State for feed grains and products, as well as soybeans and products. It accounted for 14 and 17 percent shares of total U.S. exports of these products.

The sixth ranked export State in 1999 was Texas. Agricultural exports from Texas dropped sharply to just \$2.5 billion, compared with \$3 billion in 1998. Cotton was responsible for much of this decline. Exports of cotton from Texas fell \$354 million, a 51-percent drop. Nevertheless, Texas remained the leading State in exports of both cotton and cottonseed.

Minnesota, Washington, Indiana, and Wisconsin account for the remaining 4 of the top 10 export States in 1999. Of these States, Wisconsin led U.S. exports of dairy products, accounting for approximately a quarter of total U.S. dairy exports. Minnesota was also an important exporter of dairy products, as well as soybeans and products. Washington was the second largest vegetable exporter and the third largest exporter of fruits. And, Indiana was a relatively large exporter of both soybeans and feed grains.

Although not among the top 10 exporting States in 1999, Georgia remained the largest poultry and peanut exporting State. Arkansas again was the largest exporter of rice; North Carolina the leader in exports of tobacco; and, North Dakota again led exports of sunflowerseeds and oil.

Methodology

The Economic Research Service (ERS) estimates export shares based on a State's share of production of the exported commodities. The estimated export value for each State should not be interpreted as an actual measurement of a State's export. ERS uses the Bureau of Census merchandise export data, which are reported on a free-alongside-ship (f.a.s.) basis. The Census export data are reported by the customs district, which can vary in size from a single port to several States. Frequently, no State of origin is reported in this data set. An agricultural commodity is likely to pass through several States before being exported, and the State of origin often is lost as commodities move from farmgate to port. Further, each commodity shipment may be mixed with other lots of the same commodity in the shipping process or at the port.

Other estimates of U.S. State export shares are based primarily on port data. Compared with ERS' estimates, those estimates tend to inflate the relative export shares of port States and undercount the shares of inland States, where many agricultural commodities originate.

The export estimates are based on the National Agricultural Statistics Services' crop and livestock production and slaughter estimates. In some cases, supplemental data, such as the Census of Agriculture, 1997, and the Department of Commerce's estimates for Exports from Manufacturing Establishments: 1990 and 1991 are used to refine export share estimates. Data for earlier years are revised to reflect production data revisions. (Carol Whitton, 202-694-5287)

The detailed commodity breakdown by State is available as a special article in the Agricultural Trade Briefing Room on ERS' web site: <http://www.ers.usda.gov>. State export shares also are on the ERS Autofax System at 202-694-5700. On the autofax, request document numbers 16010, 10620, & 10621.

U.S. agricultural exports, by leading States: Estimated value by commodity group, FY 1999

Commodity group	United States										
	Leading 10 States, by value										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
	Million dollars										
Total	49,102.1	6,931.7	3,151.5	2,883.0	2,823.7	2,750.6	2,512.4	2,184.7	1,778.5	1,429.5	1,261.3
Feed grains and products	6,805.6	1,165.3	978.0	871.5	689.6	532.8	500.6	310.5	295.7	268.7	225.3
Soybeans and products	6,530.3	1,185.3	1,107.5	681.4	551.1	460.9	405.6	393.7	316.4	202.8	178.9
Live animals and meat	5,334.5	847.1	761.7	736.7	496.0	263.7	229.9	212.6	184.9	180.8	170.9
Vegetables and preparations	4,245.2	1,908.4	489.5	322.7	239.4	204.4	159.2	132.7	130.0	112.3	94.6
Wheat and products	3,930.7	805.5	282.9	279.7	255.3	209.1	194.1	163.2	146.9	144.6	142.4
Fruit and preparations	3,282.0	1,535.9	611.1	569.7	120.3	91.5	59.1	54.3	51.9	49.6	24.1
Poultry and products	2,056.1	278.5	277.7	216.4	207.7	157.5	111.8	103.7	77.9	76.7	61.5
Feeds and fodders	1,673.4	236.2	189.1	186.2	112.1	94.0	85.5	64.7	59.7	51.2	49.1
Tobacco, unmanufactured	1,375.5	521.7	324.7	91.8	87.7	86.2	84.6	84.4	20.1	17.4	16.6
Cotton and linters	1,323.4	336.7	194.7	138.5	129.7	108.6	92.1	61.2	57.6	49.7	49.0
Hides and skins	1,108.5	204.3	200.2	174.2	74.8	69.6	40.2	40.1	32.9	32.1	30.8
Tree nuts	1,074.8	987.8	16.7	15.9	13.4	12.6	7.8	6.7	2.1	1.0	0.8
Rice	1,014.9	465.7	199.2	147.1	82.8	81.2	38.9	na	na	na	na
Dairy products	897.5	210.0	170.6	73.2	50.8	48.1	47.6	31.9	28.1	24.6	19.5
Seeds	799.7	168.7	141.2	43.5	37.4	36.2	32.4	31.8	31.0	27.4	26.0
Animal fats	561.1	113.5	109.5	94.6	35.9	27.8	25.6	19.6	16.4	15.9	14.8
Sunflowerseeds and oil	330.4	188.1	95.3	16.9	12.6	10.4	5.1	1.9	na	na	na
Peanuts and products	222.0	81.4	53.0	27.1	16.7	15.1	12.5	11.3	3.4	1.5	na
Cottonseed and products	61.8	18.0	6.5	6.3	6.1	5.5	4.0	3.3	2.7	2.4	2.2
Other	6,474.7	1,332.5	209.6	200.7	193.3	121.2	117.8	112.2	90.6	74.8	74.0

na = not applicable.

na = not applicable.

State agricultural exports: Estimated value, million dollars, FY 1995-99

	FY 1995	FY 1996	FY 1997	FY 1998	FY 1999
United States	54,725.1	59,890.5	57,365.1	53,730.2	49,102.1
California	6,954.3	7,188.4	7,669.1	7,582.7	6,931.7
Iowa	3,861.8	4,461.0	4,019.5	3,511.1	3,151.5
Nebraska	3,200.9	3,461.4	3,333.3	2,906.7	2,883.0
Kansas	3,082.8	3,102.3	2,718.6	2,792.5	2,823.7
Illinois	3,286.9	3,763.7	3,565.2	3,060.4	2,750.6
Texas	3,332.5	3,411.5	3,009.1	3,018.1	2,512.4
Minnesota	2,434.4	3,011.8	2,611.5	2,359.1	2,184.7
Washington	1,812.5	1,926.2	1,858.5	1,673.8	1,778.5
Indiana	1,683.3	1,958.9	1,752.3	1,605.6	1,429.5
Wisconsin	1,285.6	1,394.4	1,259.4	1,276.4	1,261.3
Arkansas	1,543.1	1,579.4	1,798.9	1,607.0	1,219.8
North Carolina	1,345.0	1,393.7	1,529.2	1,447.1	1,205.5
Ohio	1,279.5	1,545.9	1,322.7	1,356.5	1,199.7
Florida	1,202.5	1,227.3	1,223.7	1,087.1	1,117.7
Missouri	1,237.0	1,277.8	1,507.2	1,341.0	1,087.8
South Dakota	1,114.2	1,151.2	1,156.6	1,058.4	1,016.7
North Dakota	1,506.8	1,725.4	1,036.6	1,084.2	917.9
Kentucky	886.8	1,034.5	1,109.8	930.3	889.4
Georgia	1,129.7	1,245.5	1,281.4	1,120.9	866.8
Colorado	940.1	1,086.8	878.5	821.4	828.3
Idaho	926.7	930.4	843.4	830.2	789.4
Michigan	905.3	1,165.4	877.0	913.8	782.2
Oregon	714.9	743.5	723.8	696.7	680.6
Pennsylvania	529.2	683.3	672.0	599.6	592.8
Mississippi	874.0	812.6	851.8	815.0	541.6
Louisiana	718.2	690.2	723.4	660.8	480.6
Oklahoma	444.1	507.7	384.1	423.7	439.8
Virginia	425.6	479.5	522.7	447.2	385.8
Tennessee	519.7	516.1	554.8	485.6	382.3
New York	370.8	408.4	393.7	377.9	368.0
Alabama	483.5	488.8	534.2	458.1	366.3
Arizona	435.9	425.8	392.6	377.0	333.3
South Carolina	324.4	345.0	358.1	313.1	235.9
Montana	469.8	889.1	309.4	330.4	227.6
Maryland	238.4	286.1	310.1	244.5	199.7
New Jersey	150.1	148.0	171.9	159.5	152.6
Utah	168.6	185.1	153.4	139.4	151.2
Hawaii	108.7	114.6	125.4	111.2	108.1
Delaware	107.6	132.0	147.7	130.6	107.2
Connecticut	46.8	43.1	80.3	95.6	93.3
New Mexico	88.5	84.6	78.9	86.6	74.4
Massachusetts	30.0	29.2	47.6	52.4	44.1
Maine	36.4	40.0	38.4	42.3	41.9
Wyoming	31.9	51.1	40.2	42.8	30.5
West Virginia	26.5	33.6	30.8	27.2	19.7
Vermont	11.0	8.4	11.0	10.3	10.3
Nevada	2.0	4.8	5.8	5.7	4.4
New Hampshire	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0
Rhode Island	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.6
Alaska	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.2
Unallocated	2,414.7	2,694.8	3,339.1	3,210.1	3,400.1